

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 ARA-06 EA-07
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07
/109 W

-----080728Z 117356 /20

P R 080545Z APR 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3110
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, US, UN, UNSC, DM
SUBJ: UNSC DEBATE ON BENIN COMPLAINT

REF: USUN 1042

1. SECURITY COUNCIL MET MORNING OF APRIL 7 TO CONTINUE
DEBATE ON BENIN COMPLAINT. SESSION QUICKLY BECAME
ACRIMONIOUS AND EMOTIONAL AS MOROCCO LASHED OUT AT BENIN
BECAUSE THEY HAD BEEN NAMED IN BENIN'S 100-PAGE "REPORT OF
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DAMAGES" AS HAVING BEEN INVOLVED IN THE ABORTIVE RAID ON
COTONOU. SENEGAL AND IVORY COAST ALSO ATTACKED BENIN AND THE
BENIN REPORT, AND DENOUNCED GUINEA FOR ITS REMARKS THE
PREVIOUS DAY ABOUT "MERCENARY TROOPS MASSING ALONG ITS
BORDERS." ALGERIA, FRANCE, AND THE USSR MADE GENERAL STATEMENTS
DEPLORING MERCENARIES AND THE ATTACK ON BENIN. AMB
RAMPHUL OF MAURITIUS THEN TOOK THE FLOOR TO EXPRESS SURPRISE

AND REGRET THAT BENIN HAD CIRCULATED ITS "REPORT" WITHOUT CONSULTING WITHIN THE AFRICAN GROUP. HE SAID THAT THIS WAS IN VIOLATION OF THE AFRICAN GROUP AGREEMENT TO AVOID "NAMING NAMES" IN THIS DEBATE (SEE BELOW) AND HE APPEALED TO ALL AFRICAN STATES TO AIR SUCH DISAGREEMENTS ONLY WITHIN THE OAU AND NOT BRING THEM TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL (DETAILS OF SPEECHES SEPTEL.)

2. COUNCIL ADJOURNED UNTIL TUESDAY MORNING, APRIL 12. AFRICAN GROUP IS STILL GRAPPLING WITH BENIN RESOLUTION AND IT IS NOW DOUBTFUL THAT THIS DEBATE WILL END TUESDAY.

3. USUN OBTAINED COPY OF INTERNAL AFRICAN WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS TO AFRICAN STATES CONCERNING THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THIS DEBATE. TEXT FOLLOWS (NOTE: SC MISSION MENTIONED IN THE SIXTH OBJECTIVE HAS ALREADY TRAVELED TO BENIN AND SUBMITTED ITS REPORT: ALSO, WORDS "GIVE ASSISTANCE" IN FIFTH OBJECTIVE HAVE BEEN SUBSTITUTED FOR WORDS "PAY COMPENSATION");

QUOTE

REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE QUESTION OF AGGRESSION AGAINST THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BENIN

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE WHOLE GROUP AT ITS MEETING OF WEDNESDAY 30 MARCH, AND IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTION OF 28TH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, THE WORKING GROUP COMPOSED OF 3 AFRICAN MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL (BENIN, LIBYA, MAURITIUS) AND OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MONTH, NIGER, MET TO WORK OUT THE STRATEGY TO FOLLOW AT THE SECOND PHASE OF THE DEBATE OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON THE AGGRESSION OF 16 JANUARY AGAINST THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BENIN.

IN THE LIGHT OF THE STATEMENT MADE TO THE GROUP BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BENIN, AND THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WHICH TOOK PLACE WITHIN THE GROUP AS WELL AS IN THE LIGHT OF THE BORAD CONSULTATION WHICH THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MONTH UNDERTOOK, THE WORKING GROUP MAKES THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS:

I. SCOPE OF THE DEBATE

THE WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDS:

(A) THE STATEMENTS BY THE AFRICAN DELEGATIONS WILL FOCUS MAINLY ON THE DENUCIATION AND CONDEMNATION OF INTERNATIONAL IMPERIALISM,

(B) THE DENUCIATION OF THE CONDEMNATION OF THE ACT OF AGGRESSION,

(C) THE DENUCIATION AND THE CONDEMNATION OF THE ACTIVITIES

OF MERCENARIES AND OF THE ORGANIZATIONS WHICH SUPPORT THEM
AND THE GREAT DANGER WHICH THESE MERCENARY ACTIVITIES
REPRESENT FOR THE AFRICAN PEOPLE,

(D) THE CONDEMNATION OF THE USE OF FORCE TO DESTABILIZE THE
SMALL COUNTRIES PARTICULARLY THE AFRICAN COUNTRIES,
(E) THAT MEMBER STATES WHICH HAVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
LIKELY TO CONTRIBUTE POSITIVELY TO THE DEBATES COMMUNICATE
THESE INFORMATION TO THE COUNCIL.

IN ORDER TO PRESERVE THE SOLIDARITY AND THE UNITY OF THE GROUP
IT IS HIGHLY ADVISABLE THAT MEMBERS OF THE GROUP TAKING
PART IN THE DEBATES AVOID ATTACKS AGAINST AFRICAN STATES
BEARING IN MIND THAT THOSE ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM INVOLVING
AFRICAN COUNTRIES ARE IN THE HANDS OF THE OAU.

II. OBJECTIVES TO BE ACHIEVED
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AT THE SECURITY COUNCIL EVERYTHING SHOULD BE DONE FOR THE ADOPTION
OF A RESOLUTION, THE MAIN ELEMENTS OF WHICH WILL BE AS
FOLLOWS:

1. CONDEMNATION OF THE ACT OF AGGRESSION OF WHICH THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BENIN WAS VICTIM ON 16 JANUARY 1977.
 2. CONDEMNATION OF INTERNATIONAL MERCENARY ACTIVITIES.
 3. CONDEMNATION OF THE AUTHORS OF THIS AGGRESSION.
 4. CONDEMNATION OF THE USE OF FORCE TO DESTABILIZE STATES.
 5. APPEAL TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO GIVE ASSISTANCE
TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BENIN FOR THE MATERIAL AND
MORAL DAMAGES SUFFERED.
 6. REQUEST THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO TAKE THE NECESSARY
MEASURES WITH A VIEW OF GETTING THOSE RESPONSIBLE OF THIS
AGGRESSION TO PAY COMPENSATION TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC
OF BENIN. IN THIS REGARD INVITE THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO
SEND A MISSION TO BENIN TO ESTIMATE THE DAMAGE CAUSED.
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Message Attributes

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Subject: UNSC DEBATE ON BENIN COMPLAINT
TAGS: PFOR, US, DM, UN, UNSC
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